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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER

Vol. V.—No. 5.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY, 1885.

Per Annum, Four Dollars.
Single Copies, 85 Cents.

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Entered at the New York Post Office, as Second-class Mail Matter.

The Decorator and Furnisher.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER COMPANY.

JAMES A. ROBINSON, President and Treas.

J. M. BOKEE, Secretary.

A. CURTIS BOND, Editor.

JAMES G. KENT, Manager Advertising Department.

S. C. JUDSON, Manager Subscription Department.

Office, Nos. 30 & 32 East Fourteenth Street, New York.

New England Branch, F. W. DODGE & Co., 79 Milk Street, cor. Federal.

Address all communications to

The Decorator and Furnisher Co.,

30 & 32 East Fourteenth Street, New York City.

Subscription, \$4.00 per Year, in advance.

(Patent Binder, 40 cents extra.)

Single Numbers.....35 Cents.

English and French Subscribers supplied through our Agencies.

LONDON AGENCY,

THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS COMPANY, 11 BOULEVARD ST. (FLEET ST.)

PARIS AGENCY, V. S. MOREL & Co.

ADVERTISING TERMS.

Single Insertion, \$3.00 per inch; Twelve Insertions, \$35.00 per inch.
Terms for larger spaces made known on application.

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received later than the 10th of the Month.

THE recent outrages in London, the dynamite
attempts upon the Houses of Parliament and the
Tower, present the possibility of a new danger,
less in degree certainly than the loss of human
life, but nevertheless sufficiently serious to deserve
the consideration of all who are interested in the
preservation of those art works which fill the
rooms of the South Kensington and the British
Museum.

There has been gathered together in Europe a
collection of treasures that could never under any
conditions be replaced were they once destroyed;
they are kept in museums, palaces, and public
buildings of all kinds, and have practically been
at the mercy of uncontrollable and vicious indi-
viduals or mobs since the days of the successful
destruction of the Alexandrian Library, to this
attempted destruction of St. Stephen's Chapel.
Students, artists, savants, and laymen have made
pilgrimages to these great centers to study, to
learn and to improve. The practical benefit to the
world which has resulted from the gradual accu-
mulation and preservation of these treasures is in-
estimable, and it is a benefit which is enduring
and increasing; yet at any moment in a passion, a
frenzy, or for the gratification of mere deviltry,
these things might be destroyed by wretches who
do not possess the mental capacity to understand
their value, and would not be deterred in their
maliciousness if they did.

It is an acknowledgment that Europe might
as well make at once, that between Dynamiters,
Fenians, Anarchists, Communists, Socialists, Nihil-
ists, and thousands of ignorant idlers, the country
is powerless, the police are insufficient to control
them, the army is incapable of preserving the
peace. In the very face of the populace they
murder the Czar, blow up the Winter Palace,
shoot at the Emperor William and King Alfonso,
burn the Tuileries and the Hotel de Ville, damage
the Lord Mayor's House, discharge their explosives
in the Underground Railroad, wreck the Parlia-
ment Houses and the Tower, and commit endless
murders which have no bearing upon this subject
but serve very well to indicate their power, their
recklessness, and their indifference to personal
consequences.

How much longer can we expect that the art
treasures, the paintings, the antiquities, the
manuscripts, gems, coins, and the multitude of
other riches will escape their destroying disposi-
tion? Is it not reasonable to suppose that they,
too, will be burned or torn to pieces? Did they
consider the contents of St. Cloud when that
palace was leveled to the earth? Can we expect
that there will be another such man as the
Emperor William to spare the treasures of Ver-
sailles should a second war put a conqueror in
possession of them?

Does it not then behoove these foreign nations
to seek a safe repository for their valuables—for
these valuables in which all the world is inter-
ested, and is there any place safer than our own
United States? We have here individual scamps,
it is true, but we have no organized bands of
wretches held together by their desire to do mis-
chief, no dissatisfied workmen, no bodies of
men having complaints against the government
only to be satisfied by bloodshed and ruin, no
elements in fact which endanger our safety as a
people or as individuals. We are absolutely secure
and we submit the very common-sense proposition

whether it is not worthy the serious consideration
of foreign powers that all their possessions, held in
trust by them for the use of the entire world,
should not be deposited here, in the only abso-
lutely safe place on the earth.

While the argument does not require any
further additions to make its force apparent, it is
well to consider the advantage that such action
would have. We are a young, progressive, active
people, the presence of such material in our midst
would be an incentive for us to make use of it,
and we would do it, do it as we do everything
else, earnestly, thoroughly, energetically, we would,
no doubt, discover that in them which has been
hidden from the curiosity of a less prying people,
and we might become the greatest art nation as
well as the greatest commercial nation in the two
hemispheres.

Whether the good sense of this suggestion
appeals to Europe or fails to do so, there is a
duty incumbent upon us to so frame our laws,
revise old ones or construct new, that resident
conspirators who aid materially or by advice in
these foreign atrocities shall be put out of the
way, exterminated if possible, so that what pro-
tection can come from us in that way shall be
given. That is civilization, anything less would
rank with the barbarian.

HUGH CONWAY has given us some very ex-
cellent ghost stories, tales calculated to frighten
the least nervous persons and cause uneasy sleep,
but with all his inventive power and the uncanny
thoughts to which he has given words, he has
neglected thus far to show the true horrors of a
night alone in a house filled with factory furni-
ture.

In the quiet usually following dinner, when
the evening paper is being read, or the latest
magazine examined, a creaking from the hall calls
one to his feet and the door, with the expectation
of encountering a burglar quietly stealing down
the stairs and the overcoats. But when the hall
is discovered empty, the stairs untrodden, and the
reception-room as full of bric-a-brac as ever, one
hesitates in his fright until he is recalled to the
dining-room by the same mysterious noises there,
only to find no earthly visitant has crept in un-
perceived while he was absent.

If the appropriate "cold chill" has not made
itself felt by this time, the victim must have
strong nerves indeed, or his disbelief in the ma-
terialization of ghosts must be so deep-seated as
to defy contrary evidence. The chances are that
he will quietly await further development and
hope for the best, while he anticipates the worst.
If this should be his course he will be assailed
from every room in the house, the bedrooms will
fairly shriek and the parlors will give forth such
creaks and groans as might be supposed to accom-
pany a goblin party, while about him in the very
apartment where he stands (or sits, if he has the
courage to sit) there are rappings and cracklings
that appal him.

In the protection of a morning sun (how brave
light makes us all!) he investigates, and the mys-
terious noises of the preceding night are discovered
to be caused by the parting joints in the buffet,
the springing of the "rounds" in the chairs, the
dry glue in the sofas and beds, and the warping
lumber in the bureaus. This is the explanation,
and the poor owner of his newly-furnished house
understands it, but yet the very next night he goes
through the same agony again and he lives a life
thereafter full of dread of his own possessions.

WE omitted to say in our issue of last month
that the illustrations of the American Art Gal-
leries, appearing in that number, were drawn from
photographs by George G. Rockwood of this city,
and the drawings were therefore photographic in
the accuracy of their detail.